

Argument Against Proposition 77

Proposition 77 Makes Things Worse

Every time they don't get their way, politicians cook up new schemes to change the rules. They've tried sneaking redistricting schemes past voters four times over the last 25 years, and each time, **VOTERS SAID NO!**

This time, their plan will cost taxpayers millions, and three judges and two courts have ruled it was illegally qualified for the ballot.

Don't be fooled! *Read the fine print.* This undemocratic and unfair redistricting scheme has huge loopholes.

BIG FLAWS:

- 1) **VOTERS LOSE THEIR RIGHT** to reject redistricting plans before they go into effect.
- 2) **POLITICIANS SELECT THE JUDGES** to draw their districts for them.
- 3) Prop. 77 **COSTS TAXPAYERS MILLIONS** each time they reject redistricting plans.
- 4) Only 3 **UNELECTED JUDGES WILL DECIDE EVERYTHING.** That's not fair or balanced.
- 5) This unworkable scheme will be **CEMENTED INTO OUR CONSTITUTION!**

PLANS TAKE EFFECT WITHOUT VOTER APPROVAL

Redistricting plans made from Prop. 77 automatically go into effect **WITH NO APPROVAL FROM VOTERS.** That's backwards. Voters should approve plans **BEFORE** they take effect, not afterward. By the time voters have a say, the damage is done. Why won't they let voters approve the plans first?

POLITICIANS STILL IN CONTROL

Under Prop. 77, politicians in the Legislature choose the judges to draw their political districts. Politicians get the best of both worlds—they still pick their voters and now they can hide behind judges. There's no accountability!

REQUIRES MULTIPLE COSTLY ELECTIONS

If voters reject redistricting plans, the entire process starts over—new judges, new plans, more elections, and more political bickering—wasting millions of tax

dollars. This could go on indefinitely . . . with election after election . . . until voters finally approve . . . all at **TAXPAYER EXPENSE!**

GIVES TOO MUCH POWER TO JUST 3 UNACCOUNTABLE JUDGES

This redistricting scheme gives too much power to three retired judges to decide the future of 35 million Californians. These unelected judges have nothing to fear by upsetting the will of the voters.

NOT THE WAY TO CHANGE OUR CONSTITUTION

Prop. 77 changes our Constitution. But the Constitution is not a place to experiment with California's future. They're playing political games with a sacred document.

MOST AREAS OF THE STATE UNREPRESENTED

Under Prop. 77, all three judges could be from the same area. That's not fair. For example, three Northern California judges could break up Southern California communities, or vice versa. Central Valley voters could have no redistricting panel representation at all!

What effect would this have on regional issues like **WATER RIGHTS** and **TRANSPORTATION FUNDING?**

WHY NOW? WHAT'S THEIR MOTIVE?

Redistricting isn't scheduled to occur until 2011, after the Census gives an update on California's population. Instead, special interests spent millions of dollars to rush this strange plan onto the special election ballot. What's their motive?

We do need to reform our government, but Prop. 77 isn't the answer.

VOTE NO ON PROP. 77. IT WON'T MAKE ANYTHING BETTER.

www.NoOnProposition77.com

DANIEL H. LOWENSTEIN, Former Chair
Fair Political Practices Commission

JUDGE GEORGE H. ZENOVICH, Associate Justice Retired
5th District Court of Appeal

HENRY L. "HANK" LACAYO, State President
Congress of California Seniors

Rebuttal to Argument Against Proposition 77

Opponents of Prop. 77, the "Voter Empowerment Act," are desperate to protect entrenched politicians and the status quo. They have historically fought to prevent voters' voices from being heard, even trying to keep Prop. 77 off the ballot this year!

PROP. 77 WILL RETURN POWER TO THE VOTERS, AWAY FROM POLITICIANS AND SPECIAL INTERESTS WHO CURRENTLY CONTROL OUR UNFAIR ELECTION SYSTEM—IT GIVES VOTERS THE FINAL SAY.

When politicians are virtually guaranteed to win elections, they are not accountable to voters. Prop. 77 fixes this problem and improves California's election system—ensuring all voters are fairly represented.

Beware of the smokescreen arguments by opponents of Prop. 77. Remember these important facts:

- Opponents don't want competitive elections. They like the status quo and will do anything to protect their power.
- They want the politicians to continue protecting their special interests at the expense of California's working families.

- Voter approval of redistricting plans will be held at regularly scheduled elections, so opponents' claims of huge election costs are false.

Prop. 77 is simple and straightforward:

- A bipartisan panel of retired judges would establish new, fair district boundaries for the Legislature and Congress.
- They want the politicians to continue protecting their special interests at the expense of California's working families.
- Fair districts mean competitive elections.

Competitive elections ensure our elected officials listen to citizen voices and not just campaign contributors.

Nothing could be fairer than letting voters have the final word!

"YES" ON PROP. 77—IT'S ABOUT RETURNING POWER TO THE PEOPLE

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